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GEORGETOWN COLLEGE OBSERVATORY (WASHINGTON, D. C.)

A recent note from the Director of the Georgetown College Observatory recites that the old 5-inch equatorial (used by Fathers CURLEY, SECCHI and SESTINI) is now being dismantled to give place to the new 12-inch equatorial. The Director, Rev. JOHN G. HAGEN, S. J., proposes to devote the new equatorial to the observation of the fainter variable stars.

Father HAGEN also says that an English translation of F. BRAUN'S recent work on Cosmogony (*Ueber Kosmogonie vom Standpunkte Christlicher Wissenschaft*, etc., 1889), is now preparing, and that it will be issued (so I understand) by the care of the staff of the Georgetown College Observatory. E. S. H.

OBSERVATORY OF THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA, BROOKLAND (WASHINGTON, D. C.)

A recent note from Rev. GEORGE M. SEARLE, Director of the observatory, gives its geographical position as—

Latitude $38^{\circ} 56' 15''$ north.

Longitude $5^{\text{h}} 8^{\text{m}} 0^{\text{s}}.0$ west.

The position of the U. S. Naval Observatory is—

Latitude $38^{\circ} 53' 38''.8$.

Longitude $5^{\text{h}} 8^{\text{m}} 12^{\text{s}}.09$.

Professor SEARLE has a five-inch refractor in use, but expects soon to mount a 9-inch refractor, just completed by Mr. CLACEY, of Boston. E. S. H.

COMPARISON OF SOME PHOTOGRAPHS AND DRAWINGS OF THE NEBULA OF ORION.

Mr. ISAAC ROBERTS, F. R. A. S., has kindly sent me a number of paper-prints of his remarkable negatives of nebulae, and among them is a truly wonderful picture of the nebula of *Orion*, from a negative made February 4, 1889, with an exposure of 205 minutes. The instrument used was a reflector of 20 inches aperture and 100 inches focus. The print is an excellent one, but it probably fails to do full justice to the original negative, which, most likely, shows stars something like a full magnitude fainter than the print itself. I have also compared a beautiful print (enlarged seven times), which I owe to the kindness of Mr. COMMON. It was made in 1883, with his 3-foot reflector and an exposure of 37^{m} . The same remarks as to the loss